

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 03790 151020Z

61

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 FEA-01 /108 W

----- 076511

R 150741Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5027

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 3790

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, MNUC

SUBJECT: PM BHUTTO AND FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAHI

DEFEND PAK NUCLEAR PROGRAM

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: PRESS APRIL 15 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO TWO REPORTS WHICH FEATURED STRONG, REITERATED DEFENSE OF PAK NUCLEAR PROGRAMS. FIRST WAS SUMMARY OF AN INTERVIEW PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO GAVE TO THE EDITOR OF KEHYAN OF TEHRAN MARCH 20. SECOND, MUCH THE MORE PROVOCATIVE, WAS APP ARTICLE QUOTING "POLITICAL OBSERVERS IN ISLAMABAD" BUT WHICH IS ACTUALLY BASED ON BRIEFING GIVEN PRESS APRIL 14 BY FOREIGN SECRETARY AGHA SHAHI. IN THIS BRIEFING, SHAHI LAUNCHED A HARSH COUNTEROFFENSIVE DESIGNED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE US (WHICH WENT UNNAMED) ADOPTS DIFFERENT STANDARDS TOWARD VARIOUS NUCLEAR THRESHOLD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 03790 151020Z

POWERS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN HIS KEHYAN INTERVIEW, BHUTTO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT PAKISTAN HAD TO ENTER THE NUCLEAR AGE BUT REITERATED THAT IT WAS GOP POLICY NOT TO MAKE A NUCLEAR BOMB. HE STATED THAT PAKISTAN NEEDED NUCLEAR ENERGY BECAUSE OF THE SCARCITY OF OTHER ENERGY SOURCES. HE LAUDED THE FRENCH FOR AGREEING TO SELL PAKISTAN A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT DESPITE "INTENSE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE" NOT TO, AND REAFFIRMED THAT THE PAKS WOULD USE THE FRENCH-SUPPLIED PLANT FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

3. REFERRING TO PROPOSALS FOR USING A NUCLEAR RE-PROCESSING PLANT ON A REGIONAL BASIS, BHUTTO SAID, ACCORDING TO PAKISTAN TIMES SUMMARY, THAT "THIS COULD NOT BE DONE IF ONLY ONE COUNTRY HAD THAT CAPABILITY A COUNTRY HAVING A MONOPOLY WOULD NOT SHARE ITS REPROCESSING PLANT WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. BUT IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO SO IF THE MONOPOLY WERE BROKEN." (COMMENT: WE ARE NOT SURE WHAT BHUTTO WAS IMPLYING HERE AND ARE TRYING TO GET FULL TRANSCRIPT WHICH MAY SHED SOME GREATER LIGHT ON THIS PASSAGE. EMBASSY TEHRAN MAY BE ABLE TO DRAW ON THIS INTERVIEW AS PUBLISHED IN IRAN FOR CLARIFICATION.) PM ADDED THAT PAKISTAN WAS QUITE PREPARED TO HAVE REGIONAL COOPERATION.

4. IN WHAT WE UNDERSTAND HAS NOW BECOME HIS PRACTICE OF BRIEFING PRESS WEEKLY ON UNATTRIBUTED BASIS, FOREIGN SECRETARY REPORTEDLY USED RECENT US PRESS DISCLOSURE ABOUT ISRAELI NUCLEAR BOMB ARSENAL TO (AS PAKISTAN TIMES HEADLINE PUT IT) "DEPLORE CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS' HYPOCRISY" ABOUT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN GENERAL, AND ABOUT PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAMS IN PARTICULAR. QUOTING "POLITICAL OBSERVERS," APP ACCOUNT STATES THAT "WHILE SOME THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES ARE BEING PRESSED TO GIVE UP THE ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR THEIR DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES, EVEN UNDER THE MOST STRINGENT SAFEGUARDS, THERE APPEARS TO BE EXULTATION AT A SITUATION OF OVERT PROLIFERATION" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 03790 151020Z

(BY ISRAEL). IT NOTES THAT "THESE QUARTERS" ARE ALSO UNCONCERNED ABOUT THE DANGER OF SOUTH AFRICAN ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND "EVIDENCE OF GROWING COLLUSION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA IN THE MILITARY FIELD." "IT WILL BE RECALLED," THE ACCOUNT STATES, "THAT IN CERTAIN SEATS OF POWER THE INDIAN EXPLOSION WAS ACCEPTED AS A FAIT ACCOMPLI."

5. IN CONTRAST, APP ACCOUNT STATES, PAKISTAN HAS ACCEPTED DRACONIAN MEASURES OF CONTROL OVER ITS NUCLEAR PROGRAM BUT EVEN SO IS BEING SUBJECTED TO PRESSURE TO DISSUADE IT FROM ACQUIRING FACILITIES NECESSARY TO MEET THE GAP IN ENERGY PRODUCTION. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES "IT IS NECESSARY TO QUESTION WHETHER THOSE POWERS WHO ARE EXPRESSING SUCH CONCERN ABOUT THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE REALLY SINCERE IN STRENGTHENING WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY." PAKISTAN'S EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN THE NON-PROLIFERATION REGIME, THE ACCOUNT STATES, HAVE BEEN TREATED WITH INDIFFERENCE, IF NOT CONTEMPT, BY THOSE WHO SPEAK OF THE NUCLEAR THREAT THESE DAYS.

6. THE APP ACCOUNT OF THE BRIEFING ENDS WITH THE FINDING THAT THE DIFFERING APPROACH TOWARDS VARIOUS (NUCLEAR THRESHOLD) POWERS "OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH TALK OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION TODAY" SHOWS THAT IT IS THE LATTER WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SPREADING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. "THIS HAS BEEN DONE SELECTIVELY AS A PART OF STRATEGY TO EXERCISE HEGEMONY IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD THROUGH THEIR CLIENT STATES." ARTICLE CONCLUDES.
BYROADE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, PRESS CONFERENCES, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ISLAMA03790
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760143-0847
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760458/aaaabxmd.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 OCT 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <27 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PM BHUTTO AND FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAHI DEFEND PAK NUCLEAR PROGRAM
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, PK, US, (BHUTTO, ALI), (SHAHI, AGHA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006